

**Lake Township Planning Commission**  
**Public Hearing Minutes | September 18, 2025**

The Lake Township Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 6:00 pm at Lake Township Hall (5153 Scenic Hwy, Honor MI).

- 1) J. Rothhaar called the hearing to order at 6:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- 2) Members Present; John Rothhaar, Mark Janeczko, Carl Lightfoot, and Kyle Orr. Jackie Randall was excused. Others Present; Maureen Jeannot, recorder; Mary Pitcher, Twp Supervisor and approximately 27 township residents (sign in list(s) on file).
- 3) J. Rothhaar spoke about the proposed Amendment and asked people wishing to speak, to first give their name, if they are a resident of Lake Township and limit their comment time to 4 minutes or less. No other input on the Agenda.
- 4) Public Input;
  - Mary Rogers: Q-What is definition of wetland? Also commented on the R-2 Zoning changes. J. Rothhaar responded that wetlands are determined by the state. The R-2 Zoning was not part of this hearing.
  - Anne Rogers: Thanked PC board members for their work and she is in support of the proposed amendment.
  - Kim Simon: Supports proposed amendment. Q-What if people violate the ordinance, is there enforcement in place? J. Rothhaar responded.
  - Diane Carr: Q-When will the amendment be voted into ordinance? A-The planning commission must adopt it, then the township board must approve it. Q-Is 35' enough or should it be 200'? A-It will be discussed at this hearing. Q-Can we take a hand count of how many people present would like to see more than 35'. 15 raised hands
  - Kathleen Moore: Commented that 35' has been the setback for a long time. Q-What is the science behind 35'? A-The conservation district has a program for determining wetland and setback distances. K. Moore also commented that she was impressed with the PC board for their work on this but feels that 35' is not enough for wildlife in wetlands and would like to see a longer setback.
  - Anna Grobe: Q-Is 35' consistent with neighboring municipalities? A-some yes, some are in review as well.
  - Julie Frick: Commented she has been a resident since 1989. The setback distance is important to her and would like to see a longer distance; also, has concerns about lake access through wetlands in certain areas.
  - Kelly Neat: Concerned about 35' and feels it should be longer, maybe 50'.
  - Diane Carr: Concerned about wildlife on Loon Lake.
  - Jon Moothart, Williamsburg MI attorney: Recently had 2, 4-day trials. Commented that the state doesn't always follow legalities of wetland delineation; wetlands do move; setbacks from wetlands can be subject to debate; feels EGLE is liberal in their definition of wetland; a trial court had indicated where a wetland was.
  - Anne Rogers: Commented property lines seem inconsistent.
  - Kelly Neat: Commented that state assessment would be a 'gold standard'.
  - Sue Brown: Commented that 35' is not a long enough setback distance.
  - Susan Koenig: Q-Can a building project be stopped on Long Lake until wetland setback distances are in place? A-Permits are needed.
- 5) Review of written input (on file) is consistent with public input given at this hearing.
- 6) J. Rothhaar closed the public hearing at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted  
Maureen Jeannot, Recording Secretary  
September 19, 2025